

DRAFT

STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN Mr Richard Coles

CLERK Mrs Bridget MacMillan

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 3rd March at 7.30pm at Steep Village Hall

Present: Richard Coles (in the chair) Terry Cook Charles Gibson
Fran Box Philip Mileham David Llewellyn
Jo Bell Jenny Martin

In Attendance:
Bridget MacMillan (Clerk)
Jenny Gray (District Councillor)

Chris Murray (Senior Planner EHDC)
Tony Struthers

There were 10 members of the Public during the course of the meeting.

16/08 APOLOGIES

Caro Robinson and Michael Cartwright (County Councillor sent his apologies.)

17/08 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting dated Monday 14th January were agreed as an accurate record.

18/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Richard reminded the Councillors that any interests should be recorded.

19/08 DISCUSSION WITH EHDC PLANNER, CHRIS MURRAY

Chris Murray informed the Councillors of the basic structure of the Planning department at EHDC and explained the constraints and policies within which the planners worked. He gave Councillors a copy of notes provided from a formal training event in the autumn. Councillors asked questions related to specific properties and general policy questions.

20/08 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Jenny encouraged Councillors to attend the Community Forum meeting on Tuesday 4th March which would discuss the future of the district.

21/08 PUBLIC COMMENT

The Council was informed that a formal Allotment and village green Society was in the final stages of formation, with 75 households showing an interest in the project. Positive comments had been received about the state and potential use of the site now that the Bedales sheep had been allowed to graze. The council was asked to allow cultivation to begin on the site next to the village hall. Another comment was made that not all the community was in favour of this project. A request for the community to be consulted on the matter was made. The Steep Film Society requested that their request for soundproofing be reconsidered.

22/08 UPDATE ON PUBLIC EVENT

The meeting was informed that the public exhibition for possible affordable housing, shop and allotment projects would be held on Tuesday 18th March between 5 and 9pm, followed by the delivery of a questionnaire to all households seeking views of the parish. Councillors discussed elements of the consultation before agreeing to meet on Monday 10th March to finalise the details.

23/08 CONSERVATION AREA

Tony Struthers asked the Council to consider working towards a conservation area being set up for Church Road and beyond. He informed the meeting that it should provide an additional layer of protection from pressure for more development. It would apply to the landscape as well and whether the National park status was granted or not. It was agreed to work with Tony to see if an area would meet the criteria. It was acknowledged that this would take a long time.

24/08 STEEP MARSH VERGES

The meeting was informed that the verges and laybys through Steep Marsh had, once again, become worn down and misused by traffic. Councillors were asked to consider these problems should any further development or changes to current restrictions be brought before them.

Ideas for a long term solution are being sought. In the mean time David and Caro will liaise and ask Highways to reinstate the verges.

25/08 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

Common and Hangers:

Play Equipment: Start date set for the end of March.

Flytipping: Additional items now below Stoner Hill Road were noted. David will now contact Michael Cartwright for his support. Rubbish near the tennis courts on private land also noted. David to follow-up.

It was acknowledged that several parts of the Hangers are looking particularly good at the moment and credit was given to the working party.

South Downs National Park:

The Western Weald boundary issue will be considered at the inquiry with an opportunity to speak in mid March. David to attend.

Footpaths:

Jenny continues to liaise with HCC as necessary.

Roads and Traffic:

It was reported that the Church Road rating falls just below the cut-off level for resurfacing work. Work may be considered should finances allow late in the financial year 08/09. Amey is taking over the work load from Balfour Beatty.

Stoner Hull - Gulley work has been carried out on the section of road above the steel structure.

Ashford lane – Ditches are being cleared to alleviate flooding problems.

Ridge Common lane – being used as a through road to A3 by users of Sat Nav. Bridget to investigate possible solutions.

Steep Village Hall and War Memorial:

Councillors were informed that following a letter to EHDc the landowner of 53 Church Road has been reminded of his duties in regard of the ditches and flooding alongside the property.

Decisions Made (14th January – 2nd March)

31482/007	Dwelling and detached garage with associated access and landscaping	The Studio, Hemlock hall, Ashford Lane,	No Objection	
49751/001	Six dwellings comprising one four bedroom house, four three bedroom houses, one two bedroom house, associated parking, alteration to additional access after demolition of sunnymeade	Sunnymeade, Farnham Road, Sheet, Petersfield , GU32 2AP	No comment	Refusal
27675/005	Change of use of land to riding arena grid ref 756e 265n corner of field to the north of "The Brambles"	1 Steep Marsh Farm Cottages, Pratts Lane, Steep Marsh,	Objection	Refusal – NEWAPPEAL
33820/004	Two storey extension to side single storey extension to rear and dormer window to rear	2 Oakhurst Farm Cottages, Mill Lane, Steep	No Objection	Permission
5008/001	2 detached dwellings with associated access and landscaping	53 Church Road, Steep	Objection	Withdrawn
22818/002	Detached garage following demolition of garage and detached covered swimming pool, gym, plant room and store	Old Farm House, Bell Hill, Steep,	No Objection with comments	Permission

Decisions New and Pending

36287/006	25/02/08	Relaxation of condition 4 of planning permission 36287/002 to allow continued use of annexe as separate accommodation	1 Collyers Cottages, Ridge Common Lane,	No Objection with comments
34931/006	26/02/08	Change of use of land from agricultural to mixed use of agricultural and equestrian stud farm (retrospective)	Land west of Gardners Farm, Pratts Lane, Steep Marsh	
34931/007	06/03/08	Certificate of lawfulness for the retention and continued use of hardstanding area	Land west of Gardners Farm, Pratts Lane, Steep Marsh	
30820/008	18/03/08	Detached timber framed garage/store with first floor Studio above following demolition of outbuildings	Maewood, Mill Lane, Steep.	No Objection
26744/001	24/03/08	Single storey timber building for provision of welfare site office	Land to east of Steep Farm Cottages, Steep Hill, Steep.	
50326/007	27/03/08	Retention of office extension comprising former store and link	Collyers, Ridge Common Lane, Steep,	
20324/021	28/03/08	Extension to provide 3 classrooms and extension to basement to provide workshop	Dunhurst School, Bell Hill	

E-planning – Councillors agreed that all responses to planning applications should be recorded alongside the decision sent to the clerk.

26/08 FINANCE:

Nationwide Account stands at £303.89

Co-operative Bank Account stands at £4657.62 (incl. EHDC Grant for Play)

Alliance and Leicester Account stands at £18463.65 (including £8k Awards for All Grant)

Payments to HALC and B. MacMillan were made in accordance to the budget.

27/08 CORRESPONDENCE

EHDC – Core Strategy and Community Strategy – Consultation. Councillors were advised that these documents were available online and that the consultation closed on March 31st.

28/08 Next Council Meeting –

Tuesday 13th May - 7.15pm

Meeting closed at 9.40pm